

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were previously pending in the application. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of former dependent claims 2 and 3, and claims 2 and 3 have been canceled. New claims 9 through 22 have been added.

The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Turning first to the objections to the drawings, as set forth in paragraphs 1-2 of the Official Action, Applicant has corrected FIGs. 1-4 in the manner suggested by the Examiner, as well as to correct several errors therein. A Transmittal of Corrected Drawings including the corresponding replacement sheets and marked-up copies to show the corrections is provided herewith. Applicant believes the foregoing amendments to the drawings to be sufficient to overcome the Examiner's objections thereto.

Turning now to the objection to the abstract, as set forth in paragraphs 3-4 of the Official Action, Applicant has rewritten the abstract, in the manner suggested by the Examiner, and it is believed that the amended abstract is sufficient to overcome the Examiner's objections thereto.

Considering now the objection to the specification, as set forth in paragraph 5 of the Official Action, Applicant has made the amendments recommended by the Examiner at line 12 of page 2 and lines 4-5 of page 3, as well as several other corrections to errors therein, and it is believed that the objections to the specification have thereby been overcome.

The allowability of the subject matter of claims 3-8 is noted, with thanks.

Turning now to the art rejections, and considering first the rejection of claims 1 and 2 as anticipated by Dent, U.S. Patent No. 5,790,606 ("Dent"), as set forth in paragraphs 6-7 of the Official Action, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of former claim 3, which was indicated as allowable, as well as intervening former claim 2. Claim 4 has been amended to depend from amended claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 and claims 4-8 depending therefrom are now believed to be in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully submits that this art rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicant notes that, by rewriting claim 1 to include the limitations of former claims 2 and 3, Applicant is in no way admitting that the rejections of former claims 1 and 2 were proper. Indeed, Applicant is planning to file a continuation application to pursue subject matter that is broader than the now-pending claims in this application, which may include subject matter within the scope of former claims 1 and 2.

Considering now the nonstatutory double-patenting rejection of claim 1, as set forth in paragraphs 8-9 of the Official Action, claim 1 has been amended, as discussed above, and is substantially different in scope from claim 1 of the cited co-pending application serial no. 09/849,089. Therefore, it is submitted that this rejection has now been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Regarding newly added claims 9 through 22, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 9 and 22 contain features not taught, disclosed, or suggested by Dent. In particular, Dent does not teach, disclose, or suggest a method that includes each and every one of the steps set forth in claim 9, nor does Dent teach, disclose, or suggest a signal processor that performs each and every one of the steps set forth in claim 22.

In the event that the Examiner believes that this response does not place the application in condition for allowance, the Applicant requests a telephonic interview between the Examiner and the Applicant's attorney Kevin Drucker to discuss this amendment. The Applicant requests that the Examiner call Mr. Drucker (215-557-6659) to arrange a convenient time for such an interview.

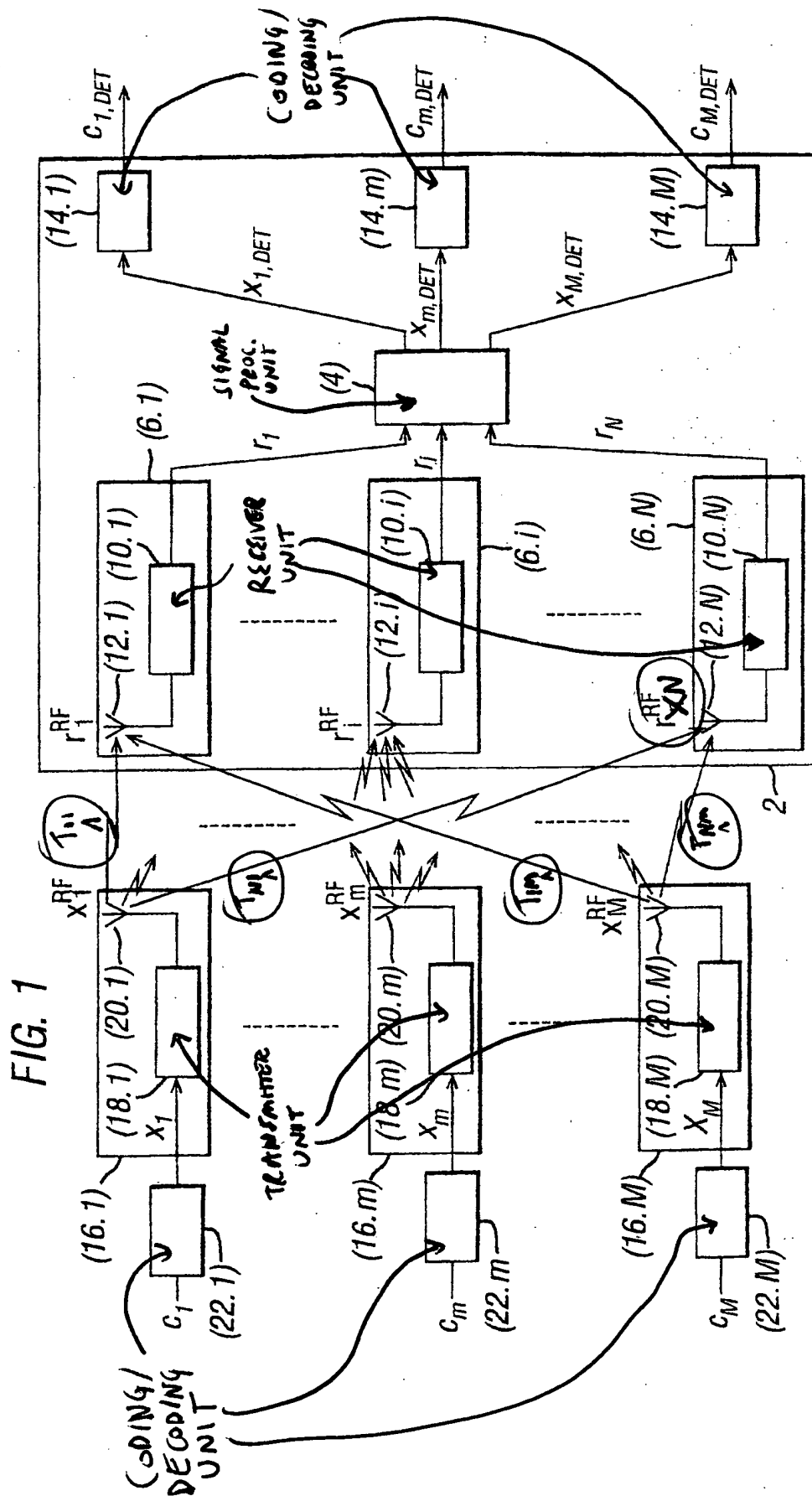
Having dealt with all of the objections and rejections raised by the Examiner, the application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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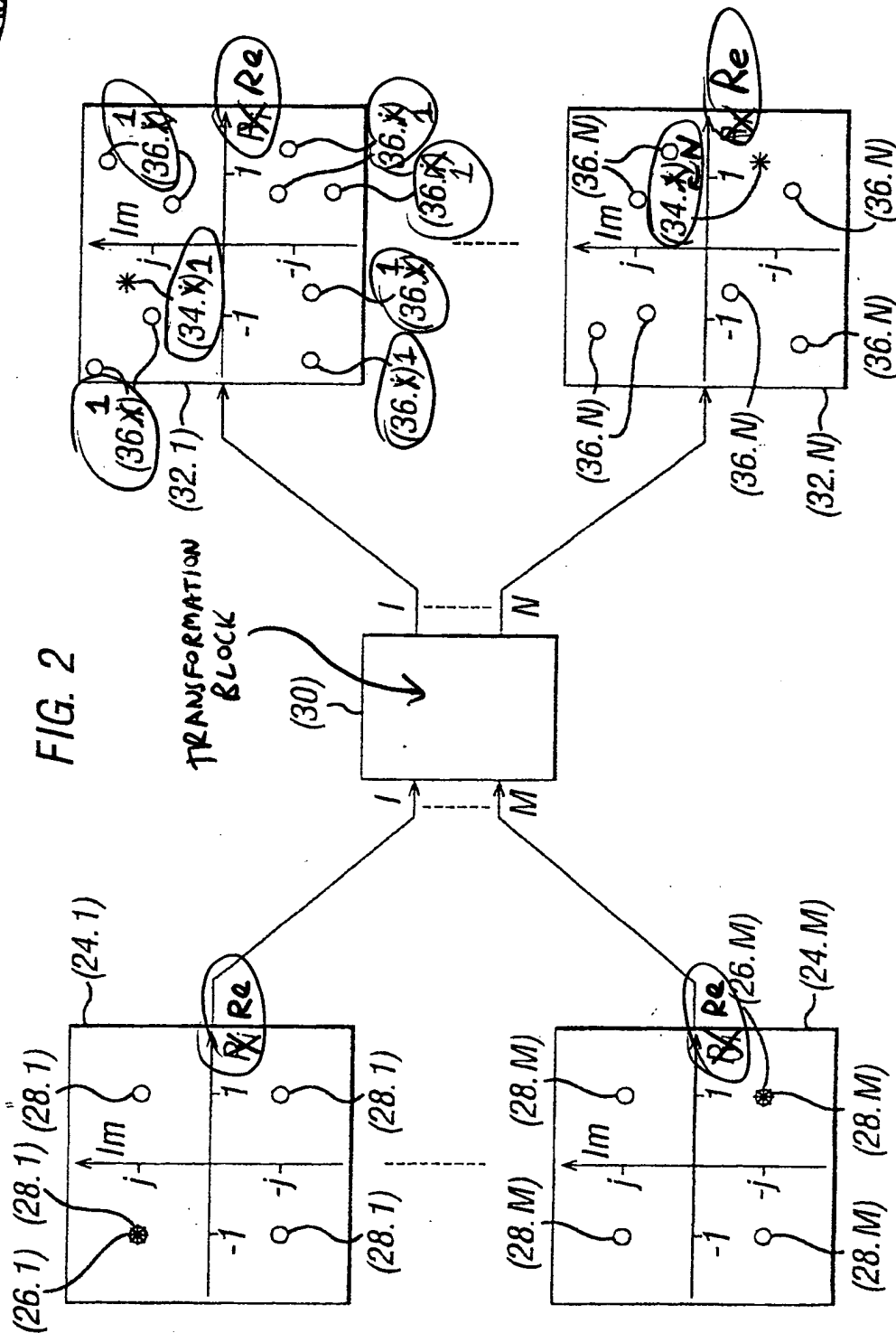




FIG. 3

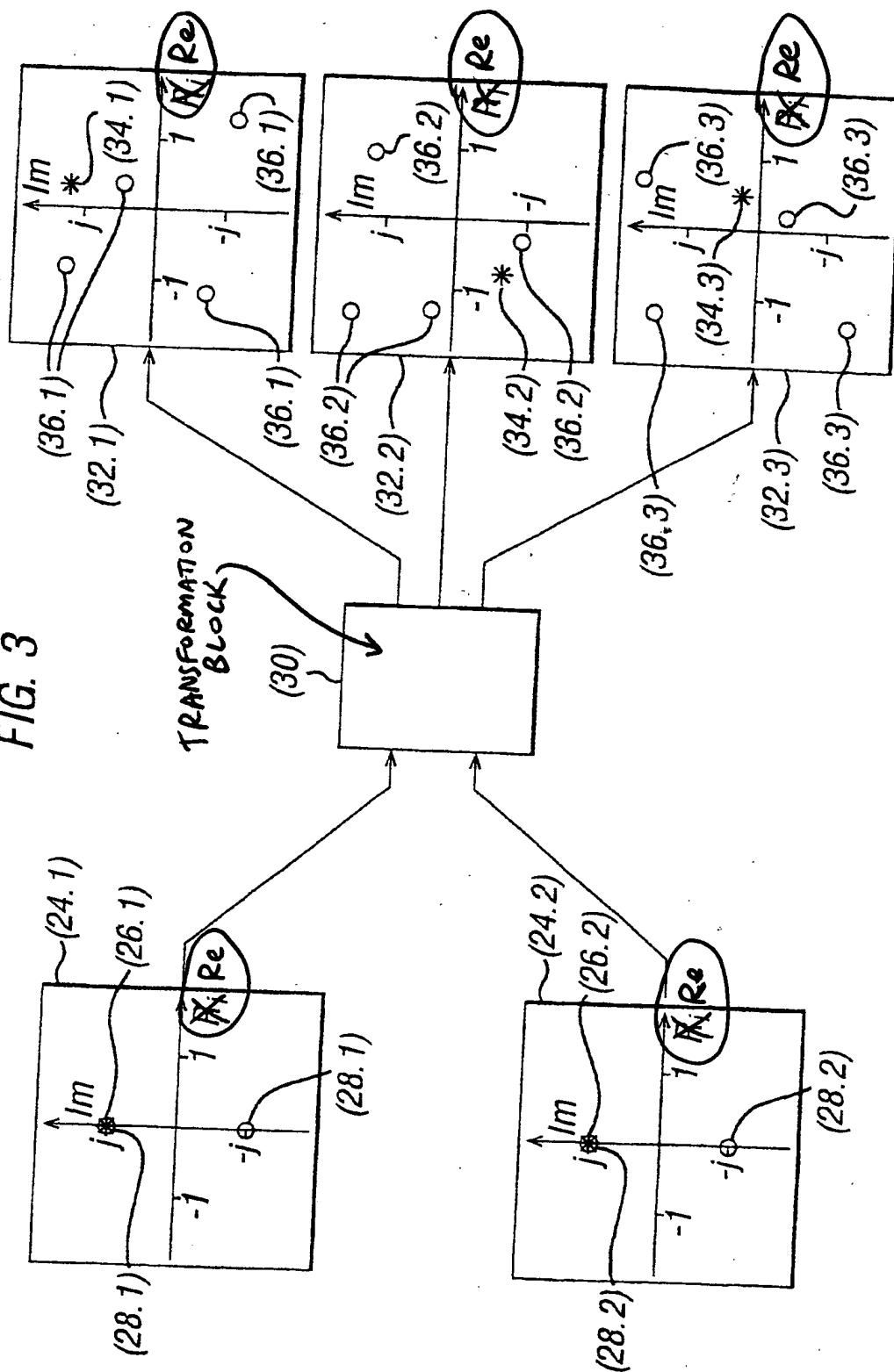




FIG. 4

